Please replace page **16**, paragraph **00069** of the original application with the following paragraph:

**[00069]** **Cloning of HOS10 gene**: DNA fragment flanking the left border of the inserted T-DNA in *hos10-1* plants was isolated by TAIL-PCR (Liu et al., 1995; Zhu et al., 2002) and subcloned into cloning vector pBluscript SK (+) (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) as described (Zhu et al, 2002). The entire isolated fragment was sequenced. The following primer pair was designed to perform T-DNA diagnosis PCR (Zhu et al., 2002): forward 5'-ACAAATCGAGTCGGACTGTACC-3' (SEQ.ID.NO.7); reverse, 5'-TCCATCGGCTTACTCTACGTCG-3' (SEQ.ID.NO.8).

Please replace page **16**, paragraph **00070** of the original application with the following paragraph:

**[00070]** The coding region of HOS10 was amplified by *reverse transcription* (RT)-PCR. Total RNA was extracted using RNeasy Plant Mini Kit (Qiagen) from wild type plants (ecotype Columbia) and 3 μg of total RNA was used for first-strand cDNA synthesis using thermoscript™ RT-PCR system (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). The gene specific primers for HOS10 were as follows: forward, 5'-ACTGGAGCTCATGGGAAGATCACCATGTTGTG-3' (SEQ.ID.NO.9) (SacI site is underlined) and reverse, 5'-ACGTTCTAGACACACGAGCTAGTAACAAGATC-3' (SEQ.ID.NO.10) (XbaI site is underlined). The RT-PCR product was then subcloned into pGEM-T Easy Vector with the pGEM-T Easy Vector System (Promega, Madison, WI), resulting the cDNA clone10-133 and the sequence of the insert was confirmed by sequencing. The HOS10 was then released from clone 10-133 and cloned into binary vector 99-1 between SacI and XbaI sites, resulting the expression cassette of HOS10 under the CaM 35S promoter. The construct was introduced into *hos10-1* mutant plants through an *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*-mediated (strain GV3101) T-DNA transformation. Primary transformants, which were resistant to 50 mg/L hygromycin (Invitrogen), were transferred to soil to grow to maturity. Progenies of these transformants were examined for *RD29A::LUC* expression with the CCD camera and for freezing tolerance as described above.